

1 1. (canceled)

1 2. (canceled)

1 3. (canceled)

1 4. (canceled)

1 5. (currently amended) A method employed in a distributed database system that includes a
2 plurality of database systems for responding to a request received in a particular database
3 system of the plurality, each database system of the plurality including a query engine and a
4 database and

5 the method comprising the steps performed ~~during execution of the request~~ in the particular
6 database system's query engine of:

7 determining when the request is parsed whether ~~the~~ an execution of the request is
8 preferably done at least in part in another database system of the plurality; and

9 if that is the case, redirecting that part of the execution to the other database system.

1 6. (currently amended) The method set forth in claim 5 wherein:

2 the request includes a specifier referring to an object that is not present in the
3 particular database system ~~one or more specifiers referring to objects belonging to a~~
4 ~~plurality thereof in the distributed database system; and~~

5 the step of determining whether the execution of the request is preferably done in
6 the other database system determines that ~~an~~ the object required for execution of the request
7 is ~~lacking~~ not present in the particular database system.

1 7. (previously presented) The method set forth in claim 5 further comprising the steps of:

2 placing the request in a form required for execution in the particular database
3 system;
4 modifying the form when it has been determined that the request is preferably
5 executed at least in part in the other database system; and
6 in the step of redirecting, the modified form is redirected.

1

1 **8.** (previously presented) The method set forth in claim 7 wherein:

2 the request includes an SQL statement;
3 the form required for execution is a cursor; and
4 in the step of modifying the form, the cursor is marked for redirection.

1

1 **9.** (previously presented) The method set forth in claim 7 wherein:

2 the request includes a call to a procedure object; and
3 in the step of modifying the form, the call is rewritten in the form required for
4 execution as a remote procedure call directed to the other database system.

1

1 **10.** (previously presented) A data storage device, characterized in that:

2 the data storage device contains code which when executed by a processor
3 performs the method set forth in claim 5.

1

1 **11.** (previously presented) A data storage device, characterized in that:

2 the data storage device contains code which when executed by a processor
3 performs the method set forth in claim 6.

1

1 **12.** (previously presented) A data storage device, characterized in that:

2 the data storage device contains code which when executed by a processor
3 performs the method set forth in claim 7.

1

1 13. (previously presented) A data storage device, characterized in that:
2 the data storage device contains code which when executed by a processor
3 performs the method set forth in claim 8.

1 14. (previously presented) A data storage device, characterized in that:
2 the data storage device contains code which when executed by a processor
3 performs the method set forth in claim 9.

1 15. (currently amended) Apparatus that redirects at least a part of a request received in a
2 particular database system belonging to a distributed database system to another database
3 system in the distributed database system, each database system belonging to the
4 distributed database system including a query engine and a database and
5 the apparatus comprising:
6 a request analyzer in the particular database system's query engine that
7 determines that the request is preferably executed at least in part in the other database
8 system; and
9 a redirector in the particular database system's query engine that redirects
10 execution of at least the part of the request to the other database system.

1 16. (previously presented) The apparatus set forth in claim 15 wherein:
2 the request analyzer places the request in a form required for execution in the
3 particular database system and causes the form to be modified when the request is
4 preferably executed at least in part in the other database system; and
5 the redirector redirects the modified form.

1 17. (previously presented) The apparatus set forth in claim 16 wherein:
2 the request includes an SQL statement;
3 the request analyzer includes the SQL statement in a cursor that the request
4 analyzer causes to be marked for redirection; and

5 the redirector redirects the marked cursor.

1

1 18. (previously presented) The apparatus set forth in claim 16 wherein:

2 the request includes a call to a procedure object; and

3 the redirector causes the call to be rewritten in a form required for execution as
4 a remote procedure call directed to the other database system.

1

1 19 (currently amended) The apparatus set forth in claim 15 wherein:

2 the request includes a specifier referring to an object that is not present in the
3 particular database system ~~one or more specifiers referring to objects belonging to a~~
4 ~~plurality thereof in the distributed database system and~~

5 the request analyzer determines that an object required for execution of the
6 request is ~~lacking~~ not present in the particular database system.

1

1 20. (previously presented) A data storage device, characterized in that:

2 the data storage device contains code which when executed implements an
3 apparatus as set forth in claim 15.

1

1 21. (previously presented) A data storage device, characterized in that:

2 the data storage device contains code which when executed implements an
3 apparatus as set forth in claim 16.

1

1 22. (previously presented) A data storage device, characterized in that:

2 the data storage device contains code which when executed implements an
3 apparatus as set forth in claim 17.

1

1 23. (previously presented) A data storage device, characterized in that:

2 the data storage device contains code which when executed implements an

3 apparatus as set forth in claim 18.

1

1 **24.** (previously presented) A data storage device, characterized in that:

2 the data storage device contains code which when executed implements an

3 apparatus as set forth in claim 19.